

S/N 09/020,869

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Wilfrido R. Castaneda

Examiner: Unkown

Serial No.: 09/020,869

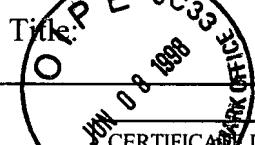
Group Art Unit: 3738

Filed: February 9, 1998

Docket No.: N.A.

**RECEIVED**

**JUN 11 1998**



ENDOVASCULAR GRAFT AND PROCESS FOR BRIDGING A DEFECT  
IN A MAIN VESSEL NEAR ONE OR MORE BRANCH VESSELS

**GROUP 3200**

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being deposited in the United States Postal Service, as first class mail, in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on June 4, 1998.

By:   
\_\_\_\_\_  
Tyler L. Nasiedlak

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (37 C.F.R. §1.97(b))

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

With regard to the above-identified application, the items of information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are brought to the attention of the Examiner.

This statement should be considered because it is submitted before the mailing date of a first Office Action on-the-merits. Accordingly, no fee is due for consideration of the items listed on the enclosed Form 1449.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2), a copy of each document or other information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 is provided.

No representation is made that a reference is "prior art" within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 and Applicant reserves the right, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 or otherwise, to establish that the reference(s) are not "prior art." Moreover, Applicant does not represent that a reference has been thoroughly reviewed or that any relevance of any portion of a reference is intended.

With respect to documents entitled "Shape Memory Alloys," "The Talent™ Endoluminal Graft Placement System," and "Talent™ Endoluminal Stent Graft System," Applicant became aware of these documents prior to the filing date for the above-listed patent application. Applicant does not know the publication date for these documents and other items information, but submit them in accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56.

Consideration of the items listed is respectfully requested. Pursuant to the provisions of M.P.E.P. 609, it is requested that the Examiner return a copy of the attached Form 1449, marked as being considered and initialled by the Examiner, to the undersigned with the next official communication.

Respectfully submitted,

Wilifrido R. Castaneda,

By his attorney,



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Dated: Jun 4 1998